completion of the on-going projects, taking up of new hydroelectric projects, survey and investigation of the new green field sites and preparation of detailed project reports.

In order to provide an impetus for accelerated hydro power development, various options are being considered to leverage the financial strength of NTPC. The NTPC has appointed M/s ICICI as a Consultant to suggest various options for leveraging the financial strength of NTPC. A decision on the modality of leveraging the financial strength of NTPC will be taken after analysing the recommendations of the consultant and after considering the views of the concerned Ministries and Planning Commission.

Conversion of Power Trading Corporation into Stock Exchange

870. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to convert Power Trading Corporation (PTC) into stock exchange for power and the creation of wholesale and regional markets for Power; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Transmission and Distribution Losses *ot* SEBs

871. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the SEBs have high transmission and distribution losses; and in Delhi, J&K, Orissa, losses are 50%, 40% & 46%, respectively;

(b) whether the actual figures are even higher; and